

A Case of Nerve

[Original.]

After the tragedy people tried to pick up the thread of what it was all about, but Nevada was a wild country in those days, with sudden shiftings, and it was hard to follow any story from beginning to end without some breaks and obscure places. We hear of the good old colony times. Nobody ever had anything to say about the good old Nevada days. There was a lot of shooting and precious little inquiry into which of the shooters had the right. For a real starter the fight between Belcher and Hodges beats anything remembered in those exciting days. As I was saying, only a bare outline of the story preceding it was learned, and this, such as it is, I will give.

Justus Belcher, a hardworking but unlucky man in the east, finding it hard to make a living for his wife and little children, heard of what was going on in the Silver State—the Comstock lode had then recently been struck—and resolved to go out there and hunt for ore. He fell in with Philip Hodges, and the two prospected together. Hodges was a strong personality and was used to taking every one by storm, but points in this story go to indicate that he had had one thing left out in his makeup, a conscience. He and Belcher made a strike and Belcher decided to send for his family, but before they arrived Hodges continued to evade Belcher out of his share in the mine. How he did it is one of the obscure points of the story.

Then followed a hard time for the Belchers. Belcher never had any luck or was too confident. At any rate he had nothing of which to support his family, and they were terribly run down. The two children, one after the other, sickened and died, and the mother was not long in following them. Belcher during all his troubles saw his former partner graving prosperous out of the mine they had owned together. He never said anything about what was on his mind. Some people who knew how he had been swindled wondered why he bore with Hodges so patiently. But Belcher knew that if he got into a scrap with Hodges it meant war to the death and dreaded leaving his family or what was left of it to shift for themselves. So he stood at his post and let revenge alone.

One day after Mrs. Belcher was buried we were in the Empire saloon—the saloon and the cabins were all the places to be in those days—and Hodges was there too. He was a popular man in spite of the general understanding of the way he had treated Belcher. As I have said, he was naturally calculated to be prominent, and his mine was doing better every day. There's nothing like success to make a man, outwardly at least, respected. At any rate Hodges was surrounded by a group of admirers, "bottin' 'em up," when the door opened and Belcher came in. Evidently Hodges had been looking for something and must have seen what he was looking for in Belcher's eyes. Besides, Belcher had never been in the saloon before. Before any of us knew what was up Hodges had drawn and shot a hole through his former partner. Belcher fell, and it was plain to all of us that he was dead. We carried him into a back room and laid him out on a table. There he was to remain till action should be taken as to his burial.

It turned out that Belcher's revolver wouldn't work. Whether it was in the hammer or the trigger or the revolving apparatus wasn't known just then, though everybody knew all about it afterward. At any rate, he never got in a shot. He had snatched it once before Hodges fired, and if it hadn't been for this cursed lack that had stuck to him the other man would doubtless have been the one to bite the dust. But as it was, there's nothing like success to make a man counted even if it is a matter of luck, and Hodges' drop made him all the more popular. Outwardly, at least, he was as untroubled as if he had shot a bird. He asked us all up to drink by way of celebrating his victory. I didn't like him and declined. He gave me a look out of the corner of his eye which told me that he considered my refusal as

CAPT. GRAHAM'S GRATITUDE

Suffered from Sores on Face and Back—Doctors Took His Money But Did No Good—Skin Now Looks Clear as a Baby's.

ANOTHER CURE BY CUTICURA REMEDIES

Captain W. S. Graham, 1321 Eoff St., New York City, writes June 14, '04, says: "I am so grateful I want to thank God that a friend recommended Cuticura Soap and Ointment to me. I suffered for a long time with sores on my face and back. Some doctors said I had blood poison, and others that I had barbers' itch. None of them did me any good, but they all took my money. My friends tell me my skin now looks as clear as a baby's, and I tell them all that Cuticura Soap and Ointment did it."

STILL ANOTHER CURE

Neck Covered With Sores, Hair Fell Out, Wild With Itching

Mr. H. J. Spalding of 104 W. 104th St., New York City, says: "For two years my neck was covered with sores, the disease spreading to my hair, which fell out, leaving an unsightly bald spot, and the sores, inflammation, and merciless itching made me wild. After a few applications of Cuticura, the sores subsided, the sores disappeared, and my hair grew thick and healthy as ever."

AND STILL ANOTHER

"For over thirty years I suffered from painful sleep and an eruption from my knee to my feet, and could find neither doctors nor medicines to help me, until I took Cuticura which cured me in six months." (Signed) M. C. Moss, Greenville, Tex.

Follows: "I have used Cuticura throughout my life. It has cured me of every skin disease I have ever had." (Signed) M. C. Moss, Greenville, Tex.

sympathy with his enemy, and he was right. I noticed that his hand shook as he poured out his liquor. Perhaps he had a presentiment of what was in store for him.

They were still drinking when suddenly the door of the back room where the corpse was laid out opened slowly, and there stood the corpse itself. Hodges looked at it and staggered back. The corpse, or Belcher, raised his pistol deliberately and drew a bead on Hodges. There was a momentary unsteadiness in Belcher's arm which he conquered by an almost superhuman effort of the will. Hodges was paralyzed as if confronted by an avenging spirit. Belcher fired, and the man who had ruined him fell on his face. Then Belcher gave way all at once and dropped dead, this time for certain.

There was no human being to tell of how Belcher revived sufficiently to get his revenge after all. There was no doctor near to explain the possibilities of the case, and the secret would have remained a secret had it not been for Belcher's revolver. We took it to an expert in arms, who told us that the cylinder had been taken out, fired and put back. Think of a dying man reviving, clutching his weapon, putting it in order, going into another room and killing his enemy. If that isn't nerve pure and simple I don't know what is.

MARK ANDERSON.

A Skin of Beauty is a Joy Forever.

Dr. T. Folz's Oriental Cream or Medical Beautifier.



"Gouraud's Cream" is the best of all the skin preparations for sale by all druggists and beauty shops in the United States, Canada and Europe. F. T. HOPKINS, Prop., 37 Great Jones Street, New York.

HOTEL GUESTS FLEE IN NIGHT

One of Los Angeles' First-Class Hostelrys Destroyed by Fire

THE GUESTS SUFFER LOSS

T. H. Benton, Wife and Daughter Barely Escaped With Their Lives—Their Loss of Valuables Reaches \$5,000.

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 25.—The Van Nuys Broadway hotel, one of the first class hostelrys of the city, located in the heart of the business district, was ruined by fire early yesterday. One hundred and ten guests, most of whom were in bed when the fire broke out, escaped in their night clothes and nearly all suffered the loss of their baggage and personal effects. Five firemen were injured by the collapse of a floor.

Fire Chief Lipps was also seriously cut by broken glass.

The financial loss will approximate \$200,000.

T. H. Benton, former state auditor of Nebraska, his wife and daughter, occupied rooms on the fourth floor and barely escaped with their lives, losing all their valuables, baggage and money estimated at \$5,000.

Mrs. P. Hanisch of Chicago escaped from her room on the fourth floor but lost effects valued at \$4,000. Several other individuals lost amount ranging from \$25 to \$2,000.

The origin of the fire has not been definitely ascertained, though it is believed to have started in the basement or engine room of the hotel. The flames spread with great rapidity and in 30 minutes from the time the first alarm was turned in, the whole building was ablaze. All of the guests were able to escape by way of the stairways and elevators, although the corridors were densely filled with smoke and many were nearly suffocated.

FINE MORE LIQUOR SELLERS.

Proprietor of Hotel in Hardwick Assessed \$300 and Costs.

St. Johnsbury, Dec. 25.—The Caledonia county court adjourned Saturday afternoon until Wednesday, the jury having been discharged for the term. After the jury was discharged Hiram Dennis of Groton retracted his plea of guilty and pleaded not guilty to the charge of violating the liquor law, and his case was set for trial Wednesday, and the jury will be recalled. Several respondents from Hardwick were charged with selling liquor illegally, and one of them, State vs. Eddie Barr, was acquitted by the jury.

George F. Daniels, a Hardwick hotel proprietor, pleaded not guilty to violating the liquor law and was fined \$300 and costs. Mr. and Mrs. Luigi Soldini, who fled from Hardwick to Massachusetts, were brought back here by requisition papers and each pleaded guilty to one offense of violation of the liquor laws. Each respondent was fined \$300 and costs. It is expected that the court will finish its term this week and at the end of the session the judges will appoint a state's attorney to succeed Frank D. Thompson, resigned.

VETERAN DIES IN HOME AT 84.

Isaac Crawford Served in 14th Vermont Vols.—Native of Bennington.

Bennington, Dec. 25.—Isaac Crawford died in the Soldiers' Home hospital yesterday morning. He was 84 years of age. Death was caused by old age and a complication of diseases. He was a native of the town and spent all his life here when not on active service. He served during the Civil war in Co. A, 34th Vt. volunteers. He was admitted to the home 11 years ago, and with the exception of six months had been there since. His wife died years ago and he is survived by a daughter. Burial will be in the home cemetery.

Handing up Money

to a doctor for pulling you through a heavy cough or cold can be avoided if you use Hale's Honey of Horehound and Tar early in the attack. It's pleasant to take, harmless and effective. Sold by druggists.

Pike's Toothache Drops

Cure in One Minute.

RACE SUICIDE ON INCREASE.

London Doctors Assert World Is Following Lead of France.

London, Dec. 25.—The question of the declining birth rate was dealt with the other night at a meeting of the Royal Statistical Society in a paper jointly prepared by Dr. Arthur Newsholme and Dr. I. H. C. Stevenson.

Two main issues were advanced, that inhabitants of the United Kingdom and other civilized countries were markedly less fertile than was the case a few years ago, and that this state of affairs is due to other than natural causes.

"France," said the authors, "has anticipated the rest of the world and has thus come near the consumption of its social feld de se, but it is only a question of decades, in the absence of a great change in the moral standpoint of the majority of people, before other countries follow in the same direction possibly even at the same pace."

"The outlook is gloomy and we cannot look with confidence to the help which is likely to come, either from preaching or medical teaching. The whole field, in fact, seems to lead to the conclusion that the decline in the birth rate is not due to increased poverty, but associated with general raising of the standard of comfort, and is the expression of the determination of the people to secure this greater comfort."

GIVES CHURCH \$1,000.

Bennington Rector Announces Donations from Former Governor McCullough and Others.

Bennington, Dec. 26.—At the Sunday morning service in St. Peter's church, Rector Schuyler announced to the congregation that former Governor McCullough had contributed \$1,000 to the building fund for the new church to be erected next season at a cost of about \$30,000, one-half of which has been already pledged. Two other gifts aggregating \$500, were also received.

A Hundred Mules Suffocated.

Spring Valley, Dec. 25.—The shaft building of the Marquette Third Vein Coal company three miles from here, was destroyed by fire yesterday and 100 mules were suffocated. The loss is estimated at \$250,000 with no insurance. The mine which had a capacity of more than 1,000 tons a day, was owned by the estate of Charles J. Devlin of Toledo, Kan., who died recently after his failure for a large sum.

What Started It.

Several women, one of whom was an old maid, were talking of capital punishment for their sex yesterday in a Denver family hotel.

"Every woman who kills a man, as Mrs. Rogers did, should be hanged," declared the old maid.

"I don't think so," said another, a married woman. "What's your reason for having such an idea, Miss Blank?"

"Because," was the reply, "men are scarce enough as it is."

"You ought to know," said another married woman with a smile. And then the squabble began.—Denver Post.

Dr. KENNEDY'S FAVORITE REMEDY



Pleasant to take, Powerful to cure, And Welcome in every home. KIDNEY AND LIVER CURE.

MORMON SHAFT DEDICATED.

Followers of Joseph Smith Stand Bare-Headed During Service in Snowstorm.

South Royalton, Dec. 26.—South Royalton people extended Saturday their hospitality to the Mormons, the occasion being the dedication and unveiling of a big granite monument and on the site of the birthplace of Joseph Smith, the prophet, in the town of Sharon. Nearly 500 people gathered to witness the exercises, held in the open air. A hard snowstorm prevailed all day, but the elements did not hinder the country folk from making long journeys to see these queer people. Fifty-three members of the sect were at the services, 29 being from Salt Lake City and the rest from New York and Boston. Fine speeches and music of a high class characterized the services, which were conducted by the heads of the Mormon church.

At eleven o'clock the ceremony was opened with prayer by President Joseph F. Smith of Salt Lake City, nearly all his male listeners standing with bare heads in the driving snow, so impressive were the ceremonies. The other principal speakers included John Henry Smith of New York, an apostle, and Arthur H. Lund of Salt Lake City, second counselor of the Mormon church. The music included solos, duet and quartette selections, the principal soloists being Prof. J. D. Eastman of New York and Miss Clara Gates of the same city. The latter is a granddaughter of Brigham Young.

After the monument was unveiled the assembly proceeded to a cottage which the Mormons have built near the monument and lunch was served. After the crowd dispersed the Mormons held a banquet. The service last Saturday evening was of a religious nature, and was held in Woodward hall, the largest public hall in town. Prior to the service, the Mormons held a reception, desiring to meet all the townspeople, and hearty greetings were exchanged.

The monument was unveiled by Miss Abbie Walk, a daughter of Julian F. Wells, a prominent Utah Mormon, with whom the project of erecting this monument originated, and who had charge of its construction, transportation and erection. Mr. Wells then formally turned the monument over to the Mormon church.

The monument has a total height of 50 feet 2 inches and weighs 100 tons. The shaft is highly polished from base to pinnacle, and is surmounted by a pyramid cap three feet high. It is the largest piece of Barre granite ever polished, and from its commanding position on the long hill leading up from the village can be seen for a great distance.

It is in five pieces, and rests on a foundation of concrete eight feet deep. The secondary base is 1 foot 2 inches thick; bottom base is 9 feet square and 2 feet thick, the disk is a 6-foot cube, and two feet six inches thick. Surmounting the whole is a shaft 28 feet 6 inches in height, with pyramid top.

On the die is the inscription: "Sacred to the memory of Joseph Smith, the Prophet, born here 25 December, 1805, Martyred, Carthage, Ill." Around the moulding is this quotation from James 1:5: "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not, and it shall be given him." After definitely determining the site of the prophet's birthplace, the Mormons last May bought about 70 acres of land, which was deeded by C. H. Robinson and wife to Joseph E. Smith, trustee, in trust. The records of the land are complete from the grant by George III, through Benning Wentworth, to the present time, while the identity of the prophet's birthplace is vouched for by men yet living.

The ancient farm is a natural park, with Bald Knob on one side and the roadway running across the other. Before the work of improving the grounds was begun, last summer, the foundation of the old house was still in place, the walls of the cellars, the hearthstones and doorstones. Clearing out dead timber and making some roadways and paths has converted the old farm into a place of beauty.

Forbes' Vermonters Sold.

St. Albans, Dec. 25.—Col. Charles S. Forbes has sold his magazine, The Vermonters, to Charles Cummings, publisher of the Interstate Journal at White River Junction, and the two periodicals will be consolidated. The new publication to be known as The Vermont and Interstate Journal. The business end of The Vermonters' affairs will still be conducted by Col. Forbes up to the January number, with which the new publisher will begin. Col. Forbes retains a business interest in the publication and will also be associate editor. The Vermonters was founded by Col. Forbes in August, 1895, and has been published in St. Albans.

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Of nearly all ordinary sicknesses with Brown's Instant Relief. Many prominent physicians endorse and use it. Specific for coughs, colds, croup, indigestion, sprains, and bruises. 25c. All dealers.

Norway Medicine Co., Norway, Me.

VARIOUS ITEMS.

Irish, Scotch and German potatoes are coming to Philadelphia by the thousands of bushels. This is the first time in five years that this article of food has been brought from over the sea. Even now it is not owing to any scarcity in the Quaker City or Pennsylvania, for the vegetation of this state, declared the finest in the world, is plentiful, as usual. The importations are made necessary by crop shortages in other parts of the country, especially in New York. The potatoes are being shipped away from here as fast as they are received. From the Haverford, yesterday there were unloaded 15,000 bushels of Irish potatoes. These were consigned to E. S. Woodward at only a little over six cents per bushel freight, after being carried over 3,000 miles. The potatoes pay a duty of twenty-five cents a bushel, and are sold in this country at retail for about sixty-seven cents a bushel. The Pennsylvania potatoes, however, and a ready sale at seventy-eight cents a bushel, despite the foreign competition. Another reason given by the importers for the shipments is the enormous yield in Europe, the average being from 400 to 450 bushels per acre, while the maximum yield in the United States under the most favorable conditions is not over 200 bushels per acre. The demand is so great in New York and other places that a steamship line has been established to carry the Maine product from Stockton, Sprague to Boston and New York. The Maine potato ranks next to the Pennsylvania article. The American liner Nordland, from Liverpool, is due next week with 20,000 bushels of German potatoes. The latter are heavy and not so salable as either the Irish or American product.—Philadelphia Record.

Deputies Remembered Him. Rutland, Dec. 26.—United States Marshall Horace W. Bailey of this city, who went to Massachusetts to spend the holidays, was given on leaving a handsome gold marshal's badge as a Christmas present. It is the gift of his five deputies, Frank H. Chapman and E. S. Whitaker of this city, L. D. Miles of Newport, C. C. Graves of Waterbury and Thomas Reeves of Burlington.

Health. Beecham's Pills are the "ounce of prevention" that saves many a dollar for cure. Keep disease from getting in, and it will never lay you out.

The safeguards against all life's common ills are: A Sound Stomach, Healthy Kidneys, Regular Bowels and Pure Blood. Hundreds of thousands—both men and women—keep healthy by using

BEECHAM'S PILLS

A remedy that has stood the test for half a century and is now used over all the civilized globe. They purify the blood, strengthen the nerves, regulate the bowels, and the kidneys and cure stomach troubles. Build up the nervous force and repair the ill effects of overeating. The best safeguard against indigestion, biliousness and dyspepsia. Take Beecham's Pills regularly and you will maintain good health at small cost.

At Small Cost

Sold Everywhere. In boxes 10c. and 25c.

OFFICIALS CLASH ON NEW SCHOOL

Town Treasurer of Dummerston Off Funds from the School Directors, and Work is Held Up.

Rutland, Dec. 25.—The town of Dummerston is without a school house, and the school directors and Town Treasurer Louis H. Lynde are at daggers' points because the latter, fearing legal complications, ordered the Vermont National Bank of Dummerston not to pay any orders issued by the directors in settlement for changes made in the school house.

The town voted recently to move the old school house, which was in an unhealthy location, and build a new one in its place. The directors tore down the old building, preferring to move it piecemeal. Some of the old lumber was thrown away, because it was unfit for use, and considerable new material had to be bought.

Treasurer Lynde concluded the building had not been moved as the voters wished, and as no money was appropriated to put up a new building, he gave the notification to the bank, to protect himself from any liability.

The Young Man, His Girl and the Baby.

A young man in northeast Baltimore has a winning way with children. His neighbors bring their offspring to his house he works them into a gleam of light by taking a few sidelong glances at them. He says that he has learned that small children understand the language of the eyes better than words. By merely winking he is able to make one of the youngsters want to leave its mother's side and come to him. A tiny twinkle of his mouth set half a dozen or more of them in a roar.

He is a single man, and, as all single men should, he has a young lady to whom he pays attention. One evening he was on a Preston street car with her on the way to a theatre. A woman entered with a baby in her arms.

The young man winked a mischievous impulse to try a wink on the child. The mother was looking in the other direction and most everyone in the car had his eyes fixed in that absent, non-committal stare which seems to be the expression suitable for riding in cars with longitudinal seats.

Nobody was looking at the young man. The child was gazing from one passenger to another. None of the faces was animated enough to attract her attention until she happened to look at the young man.

Without breaking up the sober expression of his face the young man winked straight at the baby girl. The little eyes popped big.

The young man winked again and let a smile flutter across his face. The little eyes popped bigger. The little mouth opened wide. Surely it was time for the young man to quit. He was just going to turn his head and break off the flirtation when he had another desperate impulse. He pulled out his lips as if he were going to say "Boo!" He turned his head quickly, but the little one would not be thus flitted. "Oh, daddy!" she cried and stretched out both arms toward the young man. Everybody looked at him. The young lady was staring. His face turned crimson. He is certain he will never again take clandestine glances at children in trolley cars.—Baltimore Sun.

Loaded for Hat. "Do you deny that you are a turn-out?" interrupted a man in the audience. "No!" thundered the actor, who was making a campaign for re-election. "More than once I have been compelled to turn my coat into a rug to pay a grocery bill, as many poor but honest men have had to do before me!" The applause that followed was tremendous, and the unfortunate man that had asked the question was shoved rudely out of the hall.—Chicago Tribune.

New to the Judge. "Throwing the ball" struck Judge Phelps as such a novel expression when it was used recently by a colored witness in a trial in criminal court that the judge instantly was of the ball. He made note of it for him.

When the expression was used Deputy State's Attorney Eugene O'Duane asked the witness what he meant by it. The information was elicited that a pig was being raffish and that throwing the buck meant the dice were being thrown.

Judge Phelps said he had never heard the expression before.—Baltimore Sun.

HALE'S PAVILION, - - - BARRE, VERMONT

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 27TH.

EDWARD E. RICE'S NEW YORK COMPANY Presenting Sir A. Conan Doyle's Great Detective Story and Fascinating Love Romance, Introducing

The Great Character, SHERLOCK HOLMES

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PRICES, --- 15c, 25c, 35c and 50c --- NO HIGH